

Message Text

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60

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

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R 091800Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8201

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, DR

SUBJECT: PL 480 ARREARAGES AND OUTLOOK

1. LAST NIGHT AT SOCIAL OCCASION AMBASSADOR INQUIRED OF CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR PERICHE WHETHER PRESIDENT BALAGUER HAD AS YET CONSULTED HIM ABOUT SUBJECT. PERIECHE REPLIED THAT PRESIDENT WISHED TO SEE HIM NEXT DAY (TODAY) AND HE ASSUMED THAT PL 480 WOULD BE ONE SUBJECT.

2. AMBASSADOR BRIEFED PERIECHE THOROUGHLY ON PROBLEM EMPHASIZING THREE POINTS: (A) IF GODR WISHED TO AVOID IGNOMINY OF BEING PLACED ON A LIST TO THE U.S. CONGRESS, ABOUT DOLLARS TWO MILLION HAD TO BE PAID BY SEPT 30 (AMBASSADOR ALSO POINTED OUT THAT SAME FATE AWAITED GODR IF IT DID NOT PAY ABOUT ANOTHER DOLLARS ONE MILLION BY OCT 30); (B) IF GODR WISHED TO ENTER THE PL 480 TITLE I FY 1977 GAME, THE PRICE OF A SEAT WAS TO BE CURRENT IN PL 480 DEBTS, OR FOR THE GODR TO PAY ABOUT DOLLARS 3.4 MILLION (AMBASSADOR MADE CLEAR THAT POSSESSING A SEAT DID NOT GUARANTEE A WINNER); AND (C) IF GODR WISHED TO REMOVE ITSELF FROM THE OPPROBRIUM OF BEING ABOUT THE ONLY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD BEHIND IN PL 480 PAYMENTS AND FIND ITSELF IN THE NOVEL POSITION OF BEING ONE OF THE FEW COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD THAT PAID PL 480 INDEBTEDNESS IN ADVANCE, IT COULD PAY THE ENTIRE DOLLARS 4.2 MILLION NOW AND NEITHER ONE OF US NEED MENTION

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THIS DREARY AFFAIR AGAIN FOR THE BALANCE OF 1976.

3. PERICHE SAID THAT HE FOUND EXPOSITION CLEAR AND REASON-
ABLE AND EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE BRIEFING PRIOR TO HIS
MEETING WITH PRESIDENT.

HURWITCH

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